



{In Archive} Re: A Request

Ben Knape to: Jose Torres
Cc: Philip Dellinger, Ray Leissner

06/11/2009 06:20 PM

From: "Ben Knape" <BKNAPE@tceq.state.tx.us>
To: Jose Torres/R6/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: Philip Dellinger/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Ray Leissner/R6/USEPA/US@EPA

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Jose:

It's been hectic here, with Jackie's retirement at the end of the month, and the announcement of Earl Lott as the new director for Waste Permits. Earl announced today that our UIC Team will be moved to the Radioactive Materials Division. That completes a cycle begun in 1994, if I remember correctly, when we were moved out of a division we shared with the solid waste program, and were combined with the radioactive waste program in a new section. That lasted seven years until another reorganization where UIC was sent back to join the solid waste program (Industrial Hazardous Waste Permits Section/ Waste Permits Division). In joining the Radioactive Materials Division, effective July 1, our division director will be Susan Jablonski.

In response to your email, I believe that Kathryn has sent you information on TexCom. Information on the other projects is as follows:

UEC's proposed area permit UR03075 and aquifer exemption - Hearing convened by SOAH administrative law judge (ALJ) on 5/14/09; ALJ took jurisdiction, named parties, and set schedule for discovery and testimony. Now in discovery phase. (Contact Don Redmond or Shana Horton for a copy of the hearing schedule.)

UEC's proposed PAA 1 - Initial draft permit mailed 5/4/09; final draft permit mailed 6/9/09; notice should occur soon.

UEC's proposed Class I wells, WDW423 and WDW424 - In technical review.

URI Rosita Expansion - Area permit URO2880 was amended to expand area on 11/15/07; proposed amendment of aquifer exemption to expand exempted area completed notice without opposition and should be approved by the executive director and forwarded to EPA for program revision.

STMV-Palangana - Area permit UR03070 issued 11/26/08; PAA 1 issued 1/5/09; Class I well permits WDW418 and WDW419 issued 3/27/09 (initial request for hearing on WDWs was dropped).

Mestena - proposed issuance of UR03060 PAA 4 is now in comment phase (end of comment 6/15/09).

-Ben

>>> <Torres.Jose@epamail.epa.gov> 6/8/2009 5:22 PM >>>

Hello Mr. Ben:

I am attempting to prepare an update on the status of some of the proposed projects involving applications now under review by your team. I will be including an update on these projects in our annual review report for TCEQ UIC program activities, therefore, the need for information.

Please let me know if it is possible for you to provide an update on the latest developments regarding the applications for the following projects: TexCom's WDW-410 Class I injection well, UEC's Goliad Project, URI's Rosita Expansion, South Texas Mining Venture's La Palangana Project and Mesteña's Alta Mesa Project.

If at all possible, please provide details, including dates, on, for example, the issuance of draft, or final approval of production area authorizations, or on any other action that your team may have taken regarding the listed projects.

The last time that we discussed the status of the TexCom application, you informed that the contested case hearing might take place late in July, and you also said that you had not heard reference to any field work having been completed or planned for completion at the WDW-410, as had been previously mentioned. We have reviewed copy of a notice of deficiency sent by TCEQ to TexCom concerning a Class V well, and have requested clarification on the role of this never before discussed Class V well in the processing of this application for a Class I non-hazardous well. We are not sure at this time of what exactly will be addressed at the CCH.

Thank you in advance for your attention in this matter. Please feel free to call/e-mail me if you have questions regarding this request. Have a nice afternoon. Sincerely,

Jose Eduardo Torres - 6WQ-SG
EPA, Region 6
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